

**MINUTES**  
**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF**  
**THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION**  
**MONDAY, JULY 30, 2018**  
**11:00 AM EDT**  
**ATLANTA**

Directors Present: Dave Caprera, Marty Fleisher, Bob Katz, Brad Moss, Beth Palmer, Josh Parker (by phone), Greg Humphreys (by phone),

Others Present: Jeff Aker, Jan Martel, Stan Subeck, Howard Weinstein, Marcin Waslowicz, Marty Harris (part of meeting).

ACBL Representatives: Mark Aquino, Joe Jones, acting Executive Director, Al Levy (by phone), AJ Stefani, Suzi Subeck, Merlin Vilhauer

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Marty Fleisher at 11:00 am EDT.

**II. ATTENDANCE: ESTABLISH QUORUM**

The president noted that at least a majority of the directors were present at the meeting, thus establishing a quorum for the purpose of transacting business by the Board.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 3/12/2018**

The Minutes of 3/12/2018 were unanimously approved

**IV. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Stan reported on financial transactions since our last meeting. The Board approved the report and thanked Stan for all of his work.

**V. USBC REPORT**

Jan reported that things went well, although it was more work and more money to be in a location other than Schaumburg. The Board discussed briefly whether to hold the 2022 USBC in Schaumburg or somewhere else, and didn't reach a decision.

For 2019, we have 4 USBCs. The Open is May 10-19, the Women's starts opposite the Open Quarterfinal on May 14<sup>th</sup> and ends on May 20<sup>th</sup>. The Seniors starts on May 29<sup>th</sup> and ends on June 6<sup>th</sup>. The Mixed starts on June 9<sup>th</sup> and ends on June 16<sup>th</sup>. We will try to find out how many Mixed teams are likely to enter reasonably far in advance, although it is difficult because whether people are going to play will depend on who qualifies in the Open, Women's & Seniors.

## **VI. 2018 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP DISCUSSION**

Al Levy reported that things are going according to schedule. Lots of things have to be done to bring things to the site. We're at 70% of the room block (commitment is 75%).

## **VII. 2019 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**

Al Levy reported that it would be in China, but not Sanya. In a city near Sanya. Al will email the Board members with more details. May not be final.

## **VIII. NEW ZONAL ORGANIZATION**

Jan reported that she and Josh had drafted Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws for a New York Nonprofit corporation, but Nader Hanna does not think it should be a corporation. We are unwilling to have anything other than a corporation. If we can't resolve that impasse, we will try to get WBF to allow USBF to form the organization and CBF can either join or not.

## **IX. JUNIOR REPORT**

We are sending 5 teams to China, leaving at the end of this tournament. The Board wished the teams good luck in China. Mark Aquino asked whether there would be an article in the Daily Bulletin here about the teams, and Jan said that was planned for later this week and Sue Munday has been interviewing some of the players.

## **X. OLD BUSINESS**

Supporting membership: The Board discussed implementing a Supporting Member category, with annual dues of \$25 and benefits of an email each day during the USBCs and World Championships with links to daily bulletin, scores and articles, a reserved seat to kibbitz a USBF member of the supporting member's choice at any one USBC or NABC session of play, the right to win an online game against the USBC winner by being the highest scoring Supporting Member in the Fantasy Bracket for that USBC (Open & Seniors only at the moment), and a USBF lapel pin. Joe Jones said ACBL was in the process of revamping some of their dues collection software, so it might take a little while to add this to ACBL dues bills, but it should be possible in the reasonably near future. The Board approved having the Supporting Member category and Stan will work with Joe to get it on the ACBL dues bill. Jan will ask the ACBL Bulletin staff to do an article about it in the regular Bulletin and perhaps also in the Daily Bulletin in Hawaii.

Fantasy bracket – everyone can participate; highest supporting member gets to play a match against winner.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Brad suggested that another possible fund-raiser would be to let a donor play a BBO speedball with one of our members – each member would only have to do it once or twice a year. Jan will look into how much that is worth and perhaps we could have a sliding scale of rewards for donations, including that and other things. It is probably too valuable to include with the Supporting Membership.

Mark Aquino suggested asking BBO to provide a way for people to make voluntary USBF contributions when they buy BBO bucks. Jan will look into that as well.

**XII. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be by conference call at a time to be scheduled online.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 pm EDT.